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# SOCIETY OF VETERANS

—OF THE—

## REGULAR ARMY AND NAVY OF THE UNITED STATES.

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General Officers and Trustees for 1888.

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ALEXANDER B. BUTTS, Commander-in-Chief.  
Headquarters, 99 Nassau St., N. Y. City.

FRED. R. MERES.....Adjutant-General

HENRY W. SPOONER....Quartermaster-General

CHARLES HOLMAN.....Inspector-General

ALEX. J. FARMER.....Commissary General

HUBERT OBERLE.....Chief of Engineers

FRANCIS MOON.....Chief of Ordnance

HIRAM J. PENROD .....Surgeon General

CHARLES WILSON.....Chief Signal Officer

GEORGE J. JEFFREY.Judge Advocate General

Entered according to Act of Congress, in the year 1888, by  
Alexander B. Butts, Commander-in-Chief, in the Office  
of the Librarian of Congress at Washington.



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II. The particular business and object of such society are to bring together and unite in social fellowship and fraternal intercourse all persons of good moral character who have served in, and who have

been honorably discharged from the Regular Army, Navy, or Marine Corps of the United States ; to provide for the support and maintenance of its members during illness ; to assist them in distress ; to secure their proper, orderly and decent interment in case of death, and to provide for such of their widows and orphans as shall be in needy and destitute circumstances ; to perpetuate the memory of the glorious and patriotic deeds of the Army and Navy of the United States ; to take part in public ceremonies and military displays, and to perform military drills ; to present to Congress or any of the departments or executive branches of the United States Government, or the Legislatures of any of the several States, the just claims of the members of the society to their gratitude or remuneration ; to inculcate and cherish a feeling of loyalty, integrity and obedience to the principles of the Constitution and the laws of their country ; to assist its members in seeking and securing employment ; to provide for their general welfare and material benefit ; and for the foregoing business and object to collect from them, and other patriotic persons, a sufficient sum for such purposes, by assessment or voluntary contribution, and for the convenience of its members, and for the purpose of facilitating the carrying out of the business and object of the society ; to establish branches thereof, or, as they

may be termed, commands, and to unite such commands into divisions, and to connect such divisions with the main body of the society ; and to prescribe lawful rules and regulations for the admission and government of its members, and the transaction of its business.

III. The number of trustees to manage the concern and affairs of said society shall be ten (10.)

IV. The names of the trustees who shall manage the affairs and concerns of the said society for the first year of its existence are as follows : Alexander B. Butts, Fred. R. Meres, Francis Moon, George D. McCarthy, Edward R. Duffy, J. J. McMahon, Nicholas Tiedemann, Charles Holman, Hiram J. Penrod, M. D., and James A. Nicholson.

V. The principal office and place of business of the said society shall be in the City and County of New York, which is located in the First Judicial District and First Department of the State of New York.

VI. That the said society is formed for the purpose of carrying on some part of its business out of the State of New York, to wit : In the several States and Territories in the United States, and the principal part of the business of said society within this State is to be transacted in the City and County of New York.

In witness whereof, we have hereunto subscribed our names and set our seals, the 9th day of October, 1885.

ALEXANDER B. BUTTS,  
FRED R. MERES,  
HIRAM J. PENROD, M. D.,  
FRANCIS MOON,  
GEORGE D. McCARTY,  
EDWARD R. DUFFY, M. D.,  
JAMES J. McMAHON,  
CHAS. HOLMAN,  
JAMES A. NICHOLSON,  
NICHOLAS TIEDEMANN,

STATE OF NEW YORK, }  
CITY AND COUNTY OF NEW YORK, } ss.

On this 9th day of October, 1885, before me personally came and appeared Alexander B. Butts, Fred R. Meres, Francis Moon, George D. McCarty, Edward R. Duffy, J. J. McMahon, Nicholas Tiedemann, Charles Holman, Hiram J. Penrod, M.D. and James A. Nicholson, to me known, and known to me to be the individuals described in, and who executed, the foregoing instrument, and they severally acknowledged to me and before me that they executed the same for the purposes therein mentioned.

A. J. B. MILLER,  
Notary Public (89)  
N. Y. County.



STATE OF NEW YORK,  
CITY AND COUNTY OF NEW YORK } ss.

I, Abraham R. Lawrence, a Justice of the Supreme Court of the State of New York, in and for the first Judicial District and First Department, wherein is located the principal office of the Society of Veterans of the Regular Army and Navy of the United States, do hereby consent to and approve of the incorporation of said society and of its business and object.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto subscribed my name at the City of New York in the First Judicial District and First Department, this 12th day of October, 1885.

ABRAHAM R. LAWRENCE,  
Justice.

STATE OF NEW YORK, )  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE, ) ss.

I have compared the preceding with the original Certificate of Incorporation of Society of the Veterans of the Regular Army and Navy of the U. S. with acknowledgement thereto annexed, filed and recorded in this office on the 13th day of October, 1885, and do hereby certify the same to be a correct transcript therefrom and of the whole of the said original.

Witness my hand and the seal of office of the Secretary of State, at the City of Albany, this 13th day of October one thousand eight hundred and eighty-five.

JOSEPH B. CARR,

Secretary of State.

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## **Obligation.**

I ..... in the presence of Almighty God, and these comrades assembled, do solemnly promise that I will support the Constitution of the United States and bear true allegiance to the National Government; that I will maintain and defend the sovereignty of the United States, paramount to any and all allegiance, sovereignty or fealty I may owe to any State, county or country whatsoever; and that I will at all times obey the legal officers, and the Constitution, laws, rules, regulations and orders governing the Society of Veterans of the Regular Army and Navy of the United States and the By Laws of any Command of which I may be a member.

I further promise that I will at all times, and to the best of my ability, observe and carry out the business and objects of said Society; and this obligation I voluntarily assume and promise to fulfill, upon my honor as a man and a comrade.

## ❖Rules And Regulations.❖

1. The Supreme power of the Society of Veterans of the Regular Army and Navy of the United States shall be lodged in the Board of Trustees named in the charter.

2. Vacancies in the Board of Trustees shall be filled by a majority vote of the remaining members of the Board, due notice of such contemplated action first having been given to each member in writing.

3. All members of the Society of Veterans in good standing shall be eligible to membership in the Board of Trustees, and to fill the offices thereof.

4. Members of the Board of Trustees, absenting themselves from four (4) consecutive meetings of the Board, without furnishing satisfactory excuse in writing, shall forfeit his membership in said body.

5. The officers of the Society shall be a Commander-in-Chief, Adjutant General, Quartermaster-General, Inspector General, Commissary General of Subsistence, Chief of Engineers, Chief of Ordnance Surgeon General, Chief Signal Officer and Judge Advocate General.

6. The Commander-in-Chief shall also be the President of the Society and of the Board of Trustees. The Adjutant General shall be Vice President and Secretary thereof, and the Quartermaster-General shall be the Treasurer thereof. They shall be

elected by the Board of Trustees, from their own number, at their annual meeting held October 13, in each year and shall hold office until their successors are duly elected and installed.

7. Vacancies occurring in the offices of the Board of Trustees or of the Society shall be filled by the Board of Trustees.

8. The President and Commander-in-Chief shall enforce the Rules and Regulations of the Board of Trustees and of the Society, and for this purpose he may issue such orders as may be necessary.

9. The President shall preside at the meetings of the Board of Trustees, decide all questions of law or usage, subject to an appeal to the Board, approve all requisitions properly drawn on the Quartermaster General, provided, however, that all requisitions shall first receive the sanction of the Board of Trustees. He shall appoint such additional staff officers and Aides-de-Camp as he may deem necessary to conduct the affairs of the Society, and assist him in his duties. He shall appoint all committees, and on proper application in writing, with the approval of the Board of Trustees, issue charters to commands.

10. The Secretary and Adjutant General shall keep correct records of the proceedings of the Board of Trustees ; he shall conduct the correspondence and issue the necessary orders, under the direction of the Commander-in-Chief. He shall prepare all books and blanks required for the use of the Society and shall distribute the same under the direction of

the Commander-in-Chief. He shall draw all requisitions on the Quartermaster General upon the approval of the Commander-in-Chief after the consent of the Board of Trustees has been obtained for the expenditures, and shall perform such other duties, and keep such other books and records as the Commander-in-Chief or Board of Trustees may require of him.

11. The Quartermaster General shall hold the funds, securities, and vouchers of the Society, and fill requisitions drawn upon him by the Adjutant General, with the consent of the Board of Trustees and the approval of the Commander-in-Chief. He shall give security for faithful discharge of his duties, to be approved by the Commander-in-Chief and Board of Trustees.

12. Disbursements from the Treasury of the Board of Trustees shall only be in behalf of the objects of the Society.

13. No debt shall be contracted in the name of the Society by any officer or member thereof without authority of the Board of Trustees.

14. Any member of the Board of Trustees receiving funds belonging to this Society shall at once pay the same into the hands of the Quartermaster General.

15. The charter fee is fixed at five dollars, and no charter shall be issued to a Command until this money is paid into the hands of the Quartermaster General.



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16. Commands shall be ... per capita tax not exceeding fifty cents per annum on each and every member in good standing therein.

17. The per capita tax shall be forwarded by Captains of Commands to the Quartermaster General in quarterly installments on the first days of January, April, July and October.

18. Members of the United States Mutual Benefit Association of the Society of Veterans of the Regular Army and Navy of the United States are hereby constituted associate members of the Society of Veterans, and as such form a component part of this Society.

19. The official badge of the Society of Veterans shall be of the following design, viz: A five pointed star with appropriate emblems of the service thereon, with the words "Society of Veterans" in the centre, suspended from an eagle resting on cross cannons, etc., and the whole suspended from a pin with the words U. S. Regular Army and Navy thereon.

20. Any member of the Board of Trustees violating these rules or any of them shall be expelled from the Board.

ALEXANDER B. BUTTS,  
President and Commander in Chief.

Headquarters, 99 Nassau St., N. Y. City.

[Official.]

FRED R. MERES,  
Secretary and Adjutant General.